

AVJS Bulletin: 25th November 2022

With less than four weeks left of this term, the countdown to Christmas has really begun!

Next Thursday, the children are going to the panto at Mansfield Palace Theatre (oh yes, they are!). As we are likely to be late back for lunch, the kitchen will be providing a pack up for the children who normally have school dinners on that day. The following day, it is the FOAV Christmas Fayre in the school building. We hope that you are able to come along and support us, I have attached the letter sent out earlier this week from the FOAV. Our Christmas concert is being held on Tuesday, 6th December at 2pm at St Marks church. Thank you to those of you who have volunteered to help with walking the children to and from church on the Monday and the Tuesday, we will be getting back in touch with you in due course. We have Christmas Jumper day on Thursday, 8th December if your child would like to take part. As in previous years, it does not have to be a traditional Christmas jumper, if you would like to adapt and decorate an ordinary jumper, that is fine or normal school uniform can be worn if you prefer. The children's Christmas parties are being held during the week commencing Monday, December 12th with years 3 and 4 having theirs on that day, year 6 on Tuesday 13th and year 5 on Wednesday 14th. More information will be sent to you by the class teachers. Christmas dinner day is Thursday 15th December. The deadline for payment is midnight on Sunday 11th December. You can book for the whole week or if your child would prefer to just have the Christmas dinner that week, this is set up as a separate item in your ParentPay account.

I would like to remind you that if there any changes in your child's walking home arrangements or to who is collecting them, this needs to be communicated to the school office by telephone or via email (office@arnovale.notts.sch.uk). We will then let the teachers and the children know.

We have had a green Minecraft watch handed in. It is in the school office awaiting collection.

Miss Fallon took a group of children to Arnold Hill Academy this week for a dodgeball tournament. Joseph, Kitty, Isaac, Emily and Jessica from year 4 played against a number of schools in the area and had great fun!

Thank you to all of you who donated to Children in Need last week, in total you raised £212. The donation page is open until 2nd December if you would still like to make a contribution.

We have been informed of a serious accident that happened on Somersby Road outside the Good Shepherd School on Wednesday. This happened at drop off time in the morning and is felt that it was due to inconsiderate motorists. Please be mindful when dropping off and collecting at school as to where and how you park as we do not want an incident such as this to happen again, thank you.

Online Safety News

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-16 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

In the guide below, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as age-inappropriate content, dangerous challenges and contact with strangers.



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At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

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WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't manually monitored and vetted.

18
CENSORED

DAINGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the "blackout" trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With around 1.1 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-18s (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app, it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or download them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthdate.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social networking platforms, TikTok can be addictive; figures show that young people are investing increasing amounts of time in it. In the UK, children with TikTok spend an average of 102 minutes per day on the app, versus 53 minutes on YouTube. This compulsive repeated use can interfere with their sleep patterns – leading to irritability – and distract them from other activities.

TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the "TikTok Now" feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or real-time photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content); set screen time limits; and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-18s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.

LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 23.11.2022



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Community News



**Join us for an afternoon
of Christmas Crafts
with Gedling Play Forum**

**Saturday 17th December 2022
1-3pm**

**Phoenix Farm Methodist Church
Wollaton Avenue
Gedling NG4 4H**

Refreshments will be available

The Methodist Church
Gedling



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Thursday, 1 st December 22	Whole school to the Panto
Friday, 2 nd December 22 TBC	FOAV Christmas fayre 3.35pm - 5.00pm
Tuesday, 6 th December 22	Christmas Concert at St Marks Church, 2pm
Thursday, 8 th December 22	Save The Children Christmas Jumper Day
Monday, 12 th December 22	Years 3 and 4 Christmas party
Tuesday, 13 th December 22	Year 6 Christmas party
Wednesday, 14 th December 22	Year 5 Christmas party
Thursday, 15 th December 22	Christmas Dinner day
Wednesday, 21 st December 22	Last day of the Autumn Term
Wednesday 4 th January 23	First day of the Spring Term
Friday, 20 th January 23	Chinese New Year Themed Lunch
Monday, 23 rd January 23	Dukes Barn week for Year 4 – 4 Orange M-W & 4 Yellow W-F
Thursday, 7 th February 23	Safer Internet Day
15 th February 2021	Half Term Week
Tuesday, 7 th February 23	Parents' Consultation Meeting – 3.40-6.30pm
Wednesday, 8 th February 23	Parents' Consultation Meeting – 3.40-6.30pm
Thursday, 9 th February 23	Parents' Consultation Meeting – 3.40-6.30pm
13 th to 17 th February 23	Half Term
Monday, 20 th February 23	Inset Day – school closed to pupils
Thursday, 2 nd March 23	World Book Day
Friday, 31 st March 23	Last Day of the Spring Term
Monday, 17 th April 23	First Day of the Summer Term
Monday, 1 st May 23	Bank Holiday
Monday 8 th May 23	Year 6 SATs week
29 th May – 2 nd June 23	Half Term week
Monday, 5 th June 23	Inset Day – school closed to pupils
Thursday, 29 th June 23	Transition Day (Arnold Hill Transition Day 1)
Thursday, 29 th June 23	New Parents Meeting – 6pm
Friday, 30 th June 23	Year 6 Arnold Hill Transition Day 2
Friday, 14 th July 23	Year 5 Inspire Day at Arnold Hill
Tuesday, 25 th July 23	Last Day of the Summer Term

